ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method for managing operators of an operator service, the network having switching offices in which the operator logs on to a central master office by virtue of the fact that the operator initiates a call linked to a virtual operator in the

5   master office using a call number table, the request for remote logging on is transmitted from the home switching office to the master office by means of inter-office signaling after the call link has been set up, and that data which is specific to the operator service is then transmitted from the coordination processor and/or a peripheral line trunk group of the master office to the operator and loaded into its

10 terminal.

In the claims:

On page 9, cancel line 1, and substitute the following left-hand justified heading therefor:

CLAIMS

15 Please cancel claims 1-7, without prejudice, and substitute the following claims therefor:

8.   A method for managing operators of a telecommunications network, the operators being members of an operator service and the network having a plurality of switching offices, the method comprising the steps of:

20   logging on to a home switching office via a data channel by an operator;

logging on to a peripheral line trunk group via the data channel by the operator;

transmitting, after successfully logging on, a request for remote

25 logging on to a central master office;

transmitting a call number or a call number table of virtual operators located in the central master office from the peripheral line trunk group to the operator;

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initiating a voice link to one of the virtual operators, by the operator, using the call number or the call number table;

transmitting the request for remote logging on from the home switching office to the master office via inter-office signaling, after the voice link

5 has been successfully set up;

conveying the request for remote logging on, in the master office, to a coordination processor;

loading from at least one of the coordination processors and the peripheral line group of the master office, the log on confirmation data and data

10 which is specific to the operator service, into the peripheral line trunk group of the operator in the home switching office;

loading the log on confirmation data and the data which is specific to the operator service to the operator's terminal from the peripheral line trunk group of the operator in the home switching office;

15 transmitting, via a data channel, a status report of the operator to the peripheral line trunk group of the home switching office; and

transmitting the status report of the operator to the coordination processor of the master office from the peripheral line trunk group of the home switching office via inter-office signaling.

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9.   A method for managing operators of a telecommunications network as claimed in claim 8, the method further comprising the step of:

terminating the local logging on to the home switching office after the remote logging on of the operator to the master office.

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10.   A method for managing operators of a telecommunications network as claimed in claim 8, wherein the status report is not output until after a protection time following the remote logging on has expired.

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